

The Lyons Den

By Leonard Lyons



Gen. Walter Bedell Smith, whose internal bleeding has put him back in the hospital, suffered from bleeding ulcers all through the war. In the photos showing him accepting the surrender of the German armies, Gen. Smith appears grim and tightlipped. His mother was of German descent and German was the first language he spoke. But during the armistice signing he said not a word. "I didn't dare open my mouth," Gen. Smith later revealed, "for then the blood would have spurted. Once the papers were signed, I walked outside and let go."